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National Anti-Slavery Standard.

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THE STANDARD.

THE TREATMENT OF BLACK FUGITIVES.

From The Evening Post.

The government has at last made the decision of a question that was long since forced upon it by circumstances, and which ought long since to have been answered. Gen. Butler, of Fortress Monroe, has a thousand Virginia negroes in his possession, and he lately wrote a letter to the Secretary of War requesting instructions as to what he should do with them. They are composed of men, women and children, and are reported to be slaves, who have either run away from their masters or been abandoned by them, when they seek safety and shelter within the lines of our camp.

In the first view of the case, and under the Constitution of the United States, these are all human beings, and nothing more nor less. They are black men, women and children, and are to be supplied the same protection amid the actual or apprehended horrors of a civil war. It would seem clear that they are to be treated like any other human beings. The Federal government, as such, knows of no distinctions of race or person within its own peculiar jurisdiction. Slavery exists only in the States, and by virtue of the laws of the States. It is utterly unknown to the Federal power, and is recognized by the latter, when recognized at all, as a matter of regulation only, having no existence or force outside of the municipal laws. No one claiming the protection of the laws of the United States can be regarded as a slave at all, until he has been proved so by regular judicial process.

Mr. Cameron, in his reply to Gen. Butler, appears to have forgotten, to a certain extent, this fundamental principle. He assumes throughout his letter that these blacks at Fortress Monroe are slaves, and then he decides, 1st, That the laws of the United States are to be enforced as usual, which is perfectly proper; 2d, that "persons held to service" who are employed in acts hostile to the government shall, according to the law of August 6th, 1861, be discharged from their service, which is also perfectly proper; and 3d, that other black fugitives shall be sent to work, an account kept of their time, the names of their masters, whether loyal or disloyal, put on record, and then, when peace comes, it is intimated, the persons will provide for the reward of their labor and "the just compensation of loyal masters."

This assumes throughout that all the black fugitives are slaves, though it is known that there are many free negroes in Virginia. It assumes that they are slaves, although it does not suppose that any one has asserted claims of ownership to the greater part of them. It assumes that they are slaves, although a large, perhaps the largest number of them have been abandoned by their former masters, and therefore like other waifs, or like the *jetsam* and *flotsam* of the sea, are free. It assumes that what is to be done with the women, who are able to perform only part of the labors of camps, or with the children, who cannot labor at all. And it assumes to be treated as slaves, and at the end of the war sent back to their pretended owners, having been tenderly cared for by the United States government in the interval. Mr. Cameron thus proceeds upon a wrong hypothesis, while he applies the resulting principle to only a part of his case.

In our opinion, these fugitives are to be disposed of in precisely the same manner as other fugitives. Until they are proved to be slaves by judicial process they are free men. If they are able and willing to work in the armies, they should be set to work; if they are not able to work, they become simply subjects, to be treated like other elemeosynary subjects; but in no case is the government to be converted into a great slaveholder and slave-driver. The United States black men, it must account to them as to other persons. It cannot work them on the account of any alleged owners, without subjecting itself to the right of property in man and making itself a party to the slave system. Loyal owners of slaves must take care of their slaves, and other persons must support them only by the regular process of law. If the laws are suspended by the acts of the rebels, it is their misfortune. They must suffer it in the case of slaves as in their other property. Our soldiers cannot take upon themselves the character of slave-catchers. Our camps cannot be turned into places of slave-hunting. As we do not make war for the benefit of loyal slaveholders, or for the benefit of any other special class, but for the benefit of the people of humanity, so must they, as a class, consent, like other classes, to share in the burdens of war for the sake of its general ends.

CAMERON AND THE CONTRABANDS.

From The Evening Post.

In speaking lately of Mr. Cameron's ill-conceived letter on the subject of returning fugitive negroes, we said there was much in it to approve and much to condemn. The present, indeed, had both of it, that it does not preclude the principle, which is a fundamental one in our politics, that the Federal Constitution knows only of persons as slaves, that is known of man only as man, and that no one acting under it has a right to assume, for one moment, the existence of any class of persons as existent but freemen.

We said Madison, when he moved to erase the word servitude from the original draft of the Constitution, that this was to be the great element of human liberty, so that our posterity shall not even know that such a crime as slavery existed amongst us. In the same breath the Federal Administration should always be conducted.

But apart from this general defect, there are one or two special errors in Mr. Cameron's communication. "You will not," he says to army officers, "except in cases where the public good may seem to require it, prevent the escape of any fugitive to whom any service from which he may have escaped." But the public good requires, in all cases, that these fugitives should not be allowed to escape. They are not mere dumb, unreasoning animals; many of them are persons of great acuteness of observation; they have both eyes and minds; and see what is going on about them, and describe faithfully what they see; and no better spies need be desired by the rebels than such men would make. Leaders from among them, and intelligent slaves into our camps, where they will be received and labor for it while as fugitives, until, having learned all that is needful of the number and disposition of our forces, they may desire to return home? "You must not prevent them," says Mr. Cameron to his officers. He ought to have said, you must prevent them, by all means; but with singular inconsistency, he prescribes the very course that he ought to forbid. "You must not prevent them," that is, in lack of other sources of information, they will send their slaves into our camps, on any plausible pretext, they will be well taken care of, supplied with all due information, and when the proper time comes, be allowed to go home with their noddles full of news. With all becoming respect to the great lawyer, we must say, that this is a gross stupidity. No white man assuredly would be received and returned under the same conditions.

Again, Mr. Cameron assures "loyal masters"—by which he means masters who, in the presence of our army, profess an attachment to the Union and suffer the river to flow over, "they shall receive a just compensation for the services of their fugitive slaves. The compensation, it seems to us, ought to be assured to the man who does the work, and not to another who pretends to be his owner. In taking such a position, the government acknowledges the right of property in man, which it has been the policy, not only of the Republican party, but of all parties up to a recent period, to avoid. It does more: it converts itself into a fiduciary slaveholder and factor, it takes charge of the property of "loyal masters" as that has been found in a fugitive's possession, and pledges itself to the President that he shall keep the whole Congress in Washington for the balance of their lives. In such cases the burden of the compensation will be upon the taxpayers—compliance—and there was no eliminant to these negroes.

It seems to us that in pursuing this course the government is not merely exceeding its rightful powers. The Constitution does not commit to it the duty of hunting up fugitive slaves. That office is performed himself must perform; and the government has no concern in the matter at all, until the master has discovered and captured the person he claims as property, and brought him before a magistrate—and there was no eliminant to these negroes.

It is done by the agency of the claimant, and by the laws of the State. Their loyal masters claimed compensation of Van Buren first, and then of Tyler, but got nothing from either. In the same campaign a slave was captured on a Spanish vessel and sent West. His loyal master tried to get his money's worth, but Congress laughed at his application. In 1838, again, General Claims decided, in the cases of fugitives who had been seized and not free, that "the military officer according to the legal forms. While we are at war we cannot stop to adjudicate their claims, or to make special regulations and exertions in their behalf.

WEST INDIA EMANCIPATION AT NEW BEDFORD.

From The New Bedford Standard.

The celebration of the colored citizens of New Bedford, in commemoration of the twenty-seventh anniversary of British West India Emancipation, took place at Arnold's Grove on Friday afternoon, Aug. 2d. In the morning, as organized with the following officers: *President*, Alfred Swan; *Vice-Presidents*, Charles Allen, Rev. Wm. Jackson, Dr. Thomas Bayne, Wm. Tinney, Hudson; *Secretaries*, Dr. William P. Powell, Jr., John Freedom.

Rev. Edmund Kelley officiated as chaplain, and offered prayer.

The following resolutions were offered by Wm. P. Powell:

Whereas, in order to subjugate the legitimate government of the United States, his no-excellency, the arch-rebel Jefferson Davis, has issued his proclamation, bound his people mutton on her banner, "*Freedom for all who shall rally under the Stars and Stripes!*" and in that hour the well-nigh accursed shall be blessed. Then shall be realized "Where there is no fuel, the fire goeth out. The South dreaded nothing so much as the liberation of her slave population, and dreaded it not in vain, for the slave simply standing erect as a man. The slaves must be called upon to save us, themselves and the country; and the government, through its head, is sadly in fault, and glorious return for all the wrongs and outrages that have been inflicted upon them.

That slavery is a wickedness, in our government, still seeking to maintain and perpetuate slavery, by compromise, under the old "covenant with death and agreement with hell," has been made manifest by the shivocracy, and discarded forever by them! Let emancipation be proclaimed! He held it to be not merely a war measure of war, but the highest justice and Christian duty of the government to do this. God had commanded us to "execute judgment in the morning," and this is without delay—not to deliver him that is spoiled out of the hand of the oppressor, that His fury might not go out like fire, and burn because of their evil doings. The South is the aggressor in the present unnatural war, and the slaves are simply standing erect as men. They should not be bought or sold, or hired from their masters, but be set free, as the only way to save the country from destruction, and to secure the blessing of God upon us in the struggle for liberty. But he steadfastly refused to pay their masters for their loss or their services. It was enough that he and they together defended those masters from the enemy. His action was supported by President Madison and by the subsequent Congress. In 1836, in Florida, General Jessup used slaves for his guides and spies, and when they had served him well he set them free. Their loyal masters claimed compensation of Van Buren first, and then of Tyler, but got nothing from either. In the same campaign a slave was captured on a spy and sent West. His loyal master tried to get his money's worth, but Congress laughed at his application. In 1838, again, General Claims decided, in the cases of fugitives who had been seized and not free, that "the military officer according to the legal forms. While we are at war we cannot stop to adjudicate their claims, or to make special regulations and exertions in their behalf.

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Resolved, That we, as colored men, regard it hypocritical and unchristian in those that ask us, as colored men, to pray as they do not go to war.

The resolutions were adopted.

Eloquent and interesting addresses were made by Rev. Mr. Girdwood, Dr. Stevens, Hon. Rodney French, Dr. Bayne, Rev. Messrs. Jackson, Allen, Powell, Swan, David W. Ruggles, and William Henry Johnson.

The following praseable and resolution offered by Dr. Bayne was also adopted:

Whereas, the colored people of this Commonwealth have applied to the Legislature in hare the sword of the rebellion from the nation; in that the colored men of this Commonwealth might render loyal service in times of need; and,

Whereas, His Excellency Governor Andrew has described that the grant of such a petition would be unconstitutional; therefore,

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The assembly was quite large and respectable, and everything was conducted in the most orderly and satisfactory manner.

UNLAWFUL RESTRAINT

From The Evening Post.

A few days ago one of the New York regiments was leaving Washington for this city. The soldiers had with them fourteen black men, who had been employed as servants in the regiment, and who were to accompany it North. But at the depôt these negroes were turned back by an officer of the United States army, who commanded them strictly could not be permitted to accompany their employers. We have heard of several other cases of this kind, where black men, against whom no charge existed of any kind whatever, except that they were black, were refused permission to leave Washington. In one case a poor fellow thus deprived of his means of earning his subsistence, and fearing that in the capital he would not be able to get service, or food even, concluded to go over into Virginia. He crossed the Bridge, however, at the southern United States officer, who informed him that neither could he be permitted to leave Washington by this way. The last account we had of the poor fellow was that he was not safe here a spy, and at that time the order had not gone forth, granting to blacks the special privilege carefully to refuse to receive any one camps for the enemy's lines whenever they choose.

But consider the situation of these men, who are deprived of being engaged with us in any service, or allowed to remain in a city where provisions are high, labor of the kind they had been used to not in demand, and where they must, by consequence, either starve, steal or beg.

It will be said that there was reason to suppose that these men had been about to do, days ago we recited to these columns precedents which prove that the military power of the government has always, even when called to put down rebellion, refused to recognize the State laws counting slavery, while in the performance of the duty of defending the General Government. Gen. Andrew Jackson, in 1815, at New Orleans, was a shareholder. General Jessup, who decided thus in Florida, was a shareholder. General Gaines, in Louisiana, was a shareholder, by residence, and also a shareholder, declared, in 1836, in the case of several fugitive slaves who had been seized, that "the law of 1793, that 'no shadow can enter into an judicial examination of the claim of one man to the bone and muscle of another as property.' Even in a military officer, based on the laws of Florida were, while engaged in maintaining the Federal government by force of arms. In such case he would be justified by the laws of war; and whatever may be the laws of any State, they must yield to the safety of the Federal government."

But these were cases where negroes, or their value, were actually claimed by persons who were prepared to prove themselves their masters, while no shadow of claim was made upon those who were refused permission to leave Washington. Indeed, the Provost Marshal's order does not pretend that such claims have been made. It declares that "No negroes, without sufficient evidence of their being free, or of their right to travel, are permitted to leave the city on the cars." It might as well be ordered that no person shall be permitted to leave Washington "on the cars" unless he can prove that he has never stolen a cent of money in his life. The one is not unity of our suffering, we must look to them to save more absurd than the other; for it is clearly as difficult for a man to prove that he has not been a slave as that he has not been a thief. The President and Congress in Washington for the balance of their lives. In such cases the burden of proof must be upon the negroes or complainants—and there was no eliminant to these negroes.

It seems to us that in pursuing this course the government is not merely exceeding its rightful powers. The Constitution does not commit to it the duty of hunting up fugitive slaves. That office is performed himself must perform; and the government has no concern in the matter at all, until the master has discovered and captured the person he claims as property, and brought him before a magistrate—and there was no eliminant to these negroes.

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that it is through terrible storms and conflict—it may be through oceans of blood—that we as well as our nation are to pass, in order to attain this victory. But what then? Is anything worse than continued slavery? Are all the horrors of war which you can conceive, worse than the horrors of that continued coercive, worse than the horrors of that continued war in which all the victories are on one side and all the defeats and suffering on the other? That is the war which has been going on for the last thirty years, and which we have been trying to bring to a peaceful end; and though we did not succeed in that, are we not to thank God and take courage that it is about to be brought to an end in another way?

We rejoice, then, to-day, as the slave's representatives, standing here and seeing in the dawn of the day of his deliverance the coming night. We rejoice that God has proved Himself again, as He ever proves Himself, true to his own words of promise to all who trust in Him, that they have found Him true, and that they henceforward can trust Him still more by experience as well as from the faith with which they began the war, that the weapons of His warfare are to be successful. And what are they? They are, first to take off our armor, fold our hands, and sit down, feeling that the victory is already won? Not quite yet, because four millions of slaves still wear their chains; and we must not yet cease our work. The party which has brought the nation up to the point on which it stands to-day, will surely not cease from their efforts, and allow the nation to slip backward from the height which it has attained; for you know that it is only by the continued efforts of the Abolitionists that any party in the nation has made any advance to real freedom, and it is only by their supporting strength that any party, in or out of the government, now stands upright, demanding the triumph of freedom. Not now, just on the verge of victory, shall we let go our weapons. Not now, when all might be lost by their unfaithfulness, shall they fail, who for long years have endured persecution, the sneers of the world, the threatenings, and the faithful threatenings, of many a mob, who have stood against all the opposition of this nation—not now, when the nation is at last ready to join in our cry, shall we step down from our platform, or let go our grasp on the sword of the Spirit, by which, with God's help, we have won our victories. It shall never be said that the American Anti-Slavery Society has failed in its duty in the last hour—that its standard-bearer has fainted. No, my friends, we must keep that standard floating yet a little while longer, let it cost what it may; a little while longer, till it shall wave in the breeze that bears to us the slaves' jubilee song. Then, then we may rest! If we are cry—" Not unto us, O Lord, but unto Thee, now be the glory!" while the multitude take up the shout with which we commenced our work—"Hallelujah! for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth!" (Loud and prolonged applause.)

EDWARD EVERETT ON THE SECESSION NEWSPAPERS IN THE NORTH.

[From The New York Ledger.

It is an old proverb that the laws are silent amidst arms. The laws are, for the most part, made for a state of peace, excepting those which expressly refer to war, and the manner of conducting it. When a state of war arises, the commercial necessity undergoes a change, sometimes a rapid change; the quiet pursuits of society are, to some extent, checked, and in the immediate vicinity of the war, suspended, and with them the laws, which regulate those pursuits, must for the time give way to the stern necessities of the new state of things. It should, however, be, and it is, the great effort of an enlightened government, as it is of countries, to keep this change within the peaceful order of things within the narrowest limits; and allow the supremacy of the law to be interfered with by that supremacy authority as little as possible. It is in particular any authority as little as possible. It is in particular, a cardinal maxim of free governments, that the military government should be subordinate to the civil magistrate. There are undoubtedly cases, when war exists, in which the public safety absolutely requires that the operation of the laws and the authority of the civil magistrate should yield to the paramount considerations which require summary measures. The patriotic magistrate, of whatever rank, must in such cases exert that moral courage—and it is the highest courage required for the exile of the field—which is needed for the discharge of the unpopular duty of suspending the laws for the relief of the field—which is needed for the discharge of the unpopular duty of suspending the laws under an unusual and forced, but constitutional, power. He must take the risk even of subsequent disavowal, he must boldly and manfully expose himself to the evils and brave after the danger. But he will confine his interference with the regular march of law to the narrowest limits and forced occasions, and be the first to welcome the restoration of its authority.

These are the general maxims which apply to the conduct of civil and military authority, and the practical difficulty will naturally be, not in their general establishment, but in their application to particular cases. This difficulty will of course be much greater in the commencement of a state of war, than after it has lasted for some time, and the community has been obliged to conform itself to the exigencies of the contest. At the present time, these citizens in some of the border States, who sympathize with the Confederates, think it hard that they cannot be at peace and at war, be the Union and out of it, at the same time. They claim the protection of the Constitution as in a time of profound peace, the forces moving to the defence of the Capital; they convey supplies and arms to the enemy; they recruit his ranks openly and by stealth, and in effect their objects they sometimes avail themselves of official position and authority derived from the government which they assail; and when that government, in self-defence, interferes to arrest these treasonable movements and machinations, they claim that the laws of peace are to be observed, when the very existence of the Union are invaded.

There are pressed, for the most part in the border States, though some of them are found in cities more remote from the scene of action, which are daily pleading the cause of the enemy, misrepresenting and vilifying for the government of the United States, exaggerating every article of unfavorable intelligence, and even giving themselves to the utmost to discredit the friends and defenders of the Constitution and the Union. But such is the all but supercilious toleration of the people to the liberty of the Press, that these pernicious journals have, with the exception of a single instance in St. Louis, never been interfered with. It seems to have been thought better by those in authority to tolerate the mischief of these unpatriotic presses, than to elevate them to greater importance by prosecution, or to encroach in the slightest degree upon that freedom of public discussion which in ordinary times is justly regarded as one of the greatest safeguards of liberty. *But it is preposterous to sacrifice the end to the means.* We, should, in this respect, learn wisdom from the enemies of the Union. While we regard as unbecoming our Christian civilization that recourse to Lynch law, by which every expression of opinion adverse to the popular sentiment is suppressed in the seceding States, we ought to remember that in tolerating a traitorous Press among ourselves, we practice a liberality which nowhere no gratitude at home, and is never reciprocated by the opposite party. It is in fact an absurdity in terms, under the venerable name of the liberty of the Press, to permit the systematic and incessant abuse of a government which is tasked to the utmost in defending the country from general disintegration and political chaos. The Governor of Malta was once censured in Parliament for some alleged severity toward the editor of a journal in that island, and he replied, that he thought it declared to be in danger. The Duke of Wellington said he was as friendly as anybody to the liberty of the Press in London, but a free Press in the Island of Malta was as much out of place as it would be on the quarterdeck of a man-of-war. We suppose that the most ultra champion of the liberty of the Press would hardly think it right to publish a journal within the walls of Fort Nelthorp, in which the officers of that garrison should be daily advised to desert and the men be constantly exhorted to mutiny; and whose columns should be filled with persistent abuse of the government and all engaged in its defence. We do not pretend to the description he allowed to diffuse their poison beneath its walls amidst the excitable population of a large city?

So, too, with reference to the freedom of speech in debate, one of the vital conditions of republican liberty. The late session of Congress has witnessed a unqualified by on the part of the majority in both Houses in a truly romantic cast. The acts and the motives of the government, in the suppression of the insurrection (defined by one of its most distinguished chiefs to proceed mainly from the disappointment of leading aspirants to office), have been assailed from day to day with the most bitter and a persistence which would be harmless in time of peace, but which in time of war can have no other effect upon the popular mind, than to perplex and disheartten those who are staking life and fortune in the cause of the country. This generosity reaches no greater limit on the part of those towards whom it is practiced; and so far from being reciprocated, the members of the Confederate Congress at Montgomery put Richmond who should assail the conduct or policy of that body, as the government of the United States has been assailed by the sympathizers with secession at Washington, would not reach his hotel in safety. He would swing from the next lamp-post.

Not merely is all freedom of speech and of the Press prohibited in the seceding States, but the most quiet and the humblest rights of citizenship are interdicted. When the Ordinance of secession was about to be submitted to the vote of the people of Virginia, a distinguished Senator of that State in Congress, and who in that capacity was under oath to support the Constitution of the United States, published a letter, in which he declared that such citizens of Virginia as did not approve the Ordinance should leave the State; a summary sentence of banishment and confiscation against about a third-part of the peoples of that ancient Commonwealth; a sentence which the seceding majority are now attempting to enforce at the point of the bayonet, to illustrate the principle that "the right of government rests upon the consent of the governed."

The necessity which, in time of war, partially suspends the operation of the laws, transfers the governing power to the military authority, not absolutely and without conditions; far from it; but under the limitations of the Constitution, and of the laws enacted to meet such a state of things. The power which existed in the Roman Republic of creating a Dictator, in seasons of imminent danger, rendered it unnecessary that the authority for a limited period—a power which was substantially, though not avowedly, assumed by Congress in the revolutionary war—is unknown to the constitution; and it is to be devoutly hoped will never be called into exercise by perils too formidable to be otherwise averted.

For all the ordinary purposes of war, the President of the United States is declared to be the republic's choice as "Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the United States, and of the militia of the United States, when called into active service." The laws of the land provide the means for exercising the great powers which he possesses in this character. The general is the first executive officer to which they have been called into action. The proclamation of the President calling for seventy-five thousand men to suppress the insurrection within thirty millions, and the insurrection has assumed the dimensions of a civil war. *The only remaining power of the military purpose of the United States is, but they did not at once perceived on that dynastic scale, which trusted and honored the soldier, defeated, and bringing the insurrection compliedto a speedy close.* To let it drag on by inadequate means is to prolong the suffering which it inflicts on all both citizens of the Union; to protract the perilous duties imposed upon the friends of the Union at the South; to look with no eye but that of fear to the future; and to augment all the difficulties which are to be overcome before peace is restored to the country.

National Anti-Slavery Standard,

WITHOUT CONCEALMENT—WITHOUT COMPROMISE.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 1861.

Communications will greatly oblige us by a careful observance of the following directions, viz.:

Letters enclosing matter for publication, or relating in any way to the editorial conduct of the paper, should be addressed to the ANTI-SLAVERY STANDARD, No. 5 BEEKMAN STREET, NEW YORK.

Letters relating to subscriptions, or relating in any way to the business of the office, should be addressed, "PUBLISHER OF THE ANTI-SLAVERY STANDARD, No. 5 BEEKMAN STREET, NEW YORK."

THE IMPENDING ALTERNATIVE.

The critical moment of this civil war is obviously at hand. We do not mean an immediate crisis of battle, but an important crisis of policy—of a policy which is to decide the issue of the war now on foot. General Butler has had this truth forced upon his mind as a practical necessity which cannot be evaded. His letter, which will be fresh in the minds of all our readers, is a most significant and poignant sign of the times. A man so far as possible from an Abolitionist, who has acted with the South during the whole of his political life, who has no moral objection to slavery or to any arrangements with it which may be mutually advantageous, is forced by the necessities of his position to declare that the Slave Question cannot be extinguished by wilful shutting of the eyes to it or silenced by wilful stopping of the ears, but that it must be decided just as fast and as far as it comes up for decision. If the principle of his letter be accepted as the policy of the war, the problem, and the plan of the military suppression of the insurrection be carried out, it would involve a virtual abolition of slavery. It is the policy we indicated several weeks ago as the only rational one. And the War Department would seem, judging from its new General Order, to be ready to respond to the demands of the Irrepressible Negro to the extent therein expressed.

If negroes flying to our forts and camps are to be received and employed, with the understanding that none of them are to be returned into the power of the loyal masters and to be refunded to compensation for the same—and if the armies of the Nation are to march over the whole Southern country in the process of suppressing the rebellion, these conditions must apply to such numbers of slaves as to amount to an abolition of slavery. The subsequent determination, or incidental re-settlement of the details of so great a social change, however embarrassing, cannot affect the practical result. This embarrassment is one of the penalties annexed to the crime we have so long been necessary to, and must be encountered and disentangled as best we may. But the spirit of determination of the people of the North that none of those unfortunates who have chained the hospitality of our flag shall ever be delivered over to their tormentors again, must be made so plain that every public man will understand that his political life depends on his carrying it out. This point we think public opinion has clearly advanced and has compelled the authorities, which never lead but ever follow it, to take up the position thus distinctly indicated. And it is worth the cost of the war, thus far, to know that the judicial blindness with which all the constituted authorities of the land have so persistently lost the only seen means by which the Union could be saved, is now in full process of removal. Even so far as the Union has come to the conviction that unless the cause of the North has come to this conviction, that the Union shall be saved by slavery, it has not so far the right spirit in which alone it can be saved; and I think the North has come to this conviction, that the Union shall be saved by slavery, or else it will not be saved. The spirit in which it is made up. I do not mean that the popular mind objects specifically to the abolition of slavery, but that it has made up their minds not to return fugitive slaves; but I think there is a prevailing and unconscious, perhaps, but strong sentiment in the hearts of the North, that the Union either does or shall mean liberty in the end."

We have *italicized* certain expressions by which Mr. Phillips's mind is necessary to qualify and limit his statement respecting a "purpose" in the North to overthrow slavery. Our individual opinion is that the word purpose is too strong, even taken in connection with the qualifying phrases. We do not see any evidence of the existence of such a purpose, though our assured belief is that there is a constant progress in that direction. But when this word is used with adjectives which modify its force, as in the above, it seems to us to misstate the very important matter in question; attributing to the whole North an amount of right perception and right intention in this business, to which even the Abolitionists, even the most sanguine of them, have not attained.

Since, in this very article, Mrs. Stowe admits a pledge, on the part of the present Administration, "to accept all the constitutional rights of the South," we do not see how she can say, immediately after, that the issue "was for vital principles of free society to endure to all generations."

Every intelligent person saw that when Mr. Lincoln commenced the administration of this government, he assumed a work of immense difficulty; and a work, the difficulties of which would be enhanced in proportion to the amount of reform which he should attempt to introduce into it. Under the circumstances, it was best enough, no doubt, to turn the "corrupted currents" of Washington politics into conformity with the Chicago platform; to reduce to practice even the moderate reform which if contemplated. Nothing more than this was to be expected of him at the outset. While he was surrounded by the same influences as his predecessor, he could not be expected to move in the slightest degree beyond this point, unless energetic and extensive demonstrations were made by the Republicans, who had elected him, showing their wish that such advance should be made, and their determination to support and to accomplish it.

Now, the fact is, that no such demonstrations have been made by the Republicans, or by any considerable portion of them. Mr. Lincoln has been shown reason to suppose that the party desired one step further, to advance against slavery than resistance to its extension. While this quiescence on their part continued, nothing more was to be expected on his part. While he has made not the slightest movement towards an amendment of the Constitution in the direction of liberty, while they even made continued parade of their hearty acquiescence in its pro-slavery clauses, what could be expected of their President but that he should echo that acquiescence, and lay his course in that direction? The antecedents of Abraham Lincoln had given no reason to expect from him anything scarce anti-slavery than this.

These things being so, how does it happen that the Abolitionists, who have heretofore sharply criticised the shortcomings of the Republican party, and rebuked that party as unfaithful to liberty, and to the slave, should now be represented as an perfect union, of spirit and purpose, and action, not only with them, but with the North? How comes Mrs. Stowe to be authorized to say of them—

"For the first time since the anti-slavery struggle began, this body of men at last stand shoulder to shoulder with their whole country in a popular movement."

The fact is, that no one is authorized to say this. It is an inaccurate statement. Yet there are certain facts looking in that direction, which have produced this impression in the minds of Mrs. Stowe and others.

The Abolitionists have always urged upon the Republicans that the continued allowance of slavery where it now exists is an absolutely incompatible with a free Union—and as destructive of our country of equal rights, and a government *of* the people, *by* the people, and *for* the people"—as that extension of slavery which they oppose. They have always urged upon the Republicans that slavery must be "hemmed in" merely—because that slavery must be "hemmed in" merely, but bounded; and have insured these half-converts that any portion of this root of bitterness remaining in the Constitution, and in the actual life of the nation, would so constantly threaten the supremacy of slavery and the decline of freedom, that there was no safety for them, or for the nation, but in its utter extinction.

When, in the progress of events, more and more of the Republican parties joined in the declaration that they would not submit to the administration of a Republican President, however regularly elected—when that State which had always shown the intensest fanaticism in the advocacy of slavery openly broke the bonds of Union and—and when other States joined in her rebellion, and all aggravated their disloyalty by outrageous acts of aggression against the General government, and utter disregard of the rights of all Northerners—it seemed to be time that the nation could no longer doubt the truth of what the Abolitionists had told them, could no longer fail to see that slavery was the mother of this dragon brood, and that there was no peace or security for the nation but in the extermination. It seemed as if, however tolerant the Administration party had been of the continuance of slavery *before* the rebellion, this way must show them that the conflict was indeed one for slavery alike, and that slavery or freedom must now be overthrown.

Seeing the urgency, and what seemed the indispensableness, of a change in the policy of the Republican party—seeing that the aggressions of the Slave Power supplied at once the occasion, the means, and the justification of a direct and vigorous movement against slavery itself—the Abolitionists constantly judged that the Administration and its supporters would proceed to take this right and needful ground; having at heart the welfare of THE CAUSE, and not their own honor or public estimation, they unquestionably offered their open approval and their active cooperation in any movement which should actually be made by *others* against slavery; and, seeing that, however deficient the Republicans had been in the discharge of their duties towards the slave, they were infinitely more just and right in their opposition to the course of rebellion commenced by the Slave Power, the Abolitionists generally pushed their expressions of approval and offers of cooperation to the very verge of truth and sincerity, and having reason to think, from the necessities and probabilities of the case, that the administration would advance nearer and nearer to a positively right position; could see the occasion that providentially given, and the power of constitutional and legitimate action against slavery which the enemy's own movement had offered to their hand; could proceed, first to the overthrow of slavery by the war power in the rebellious States, and next to such measures for its removal from the loyal slave States as to insure complete exemption from it in any ultimate reconstruction of the Union, or in any Northern Republic which should form a separate nation.

The Abolitionists, we say, went to the verge of prudence in hoping and trusting that the Administration and its supporters would take this just and needful ground, and in showing themselves *for the present* satisfied, as far as the government should be against slavery. No doubt, sometimes, the wish was luther to the thought, and the anti-slavery speaker or writer fell into the inaccuracy of hailing that position as their right, which was coming almost more likely soon than one so. These hopeful 'ones, as we have said, went to the very verge of what truth, and faithfulness to the slave, permitted. Perhaps they passed that boundary. But, even if so, it was a generous error.

In fact, the result, as thus far developed, has not warranted this liberality of construction and expectation which the Abolitionists have used. The Republicans have not shown themselves to be the men demanded by the hour. Even if we admit the existence of deep-seated anti-slavery the demands of the time has been an occasional admission, on the part of a few of their organs, that slavery is the cause of all this evil, and that nothing short of its utter extirpation will insure the safety of the country—and even this admission has been in the case of the works of Lord Erskine, the great constitutional lawyer and statesman, before the public for the last quarter of a century, which we know will be expended to promote the cause of human freedom. We take leave of you with the kindest wishes for your health and success, and on behalf of the subscribers we append our names.

Yours truly, SAMUEL HARTSHORNE, Chairman.

S. S. MOSELY, Treasurer.
E. A. CRAWFORD, Secretary.

The piece of plate presented was a silver salver, weighing 84 ounces—very handsome, as a personal expression of esteem, and it bears the following inscription:

"Presented to the Rev. G. B. Cheever, D.D., Pastor of the Church at the Puritans, by his friends, in token of their sympathy with him in the noble and undeserved persecution which he has endured in upholding as a standard God, and a visitation of the first spirits of humanity.

"Right Hon. Lord Brougham, the Earl of Shaftesbury, Chairman.

Right Hon. Lord Kinnaird, Rev. Thomas James.
Edward Baines, Esq., M.P. Rev. Arthur Khnaird, M.P.
Edward Bull, Esq., M.P. Robert Lush, Esq., Q.C.
Rev. Thomas Sherwood. Charles Edward Mudie, Esq.
William Brock. Rev. Newman Hall.
Charles Buxton, Esq., M.P. Rev. John Stoughton.
W. Cowper Coles, Esq., Q.C. Edward Swaine, Esq.
Sir Charles Decimus Crosley. Rev. Robert Wilson.
Robert Hardcastle, Esq., M.P. Joshua Wilson, Esq.
Rev. Newman Hall, Secretary.

M. A. Garvey, Esq., Honorable Secretary."

The speech delivered by Dr. Cheever on receiving the gift was pronounced unanimously was an eloquent and forcible plea for emancipation as the indispensable means of success in the war between the North and the South, and an equally eloquent remonstrance against any acknowledgment of the Southern Confederacy by Great Britain.

TALKING SENSE.

The Washington telegraphic correspondent of the Philadelphia *Press*—presumed to be Mr. Forney, its editor—holds the following sensible language:

"The Committee on the Conduct of the War, Congress, the correspondence between General Butler and the War Department, and the latter's order of the day, promising that all the city freebooter colored people to go North without freedom papers, have removed the inquiry as to the ultimate future of slavery. I must say, in a remarkable change of sentiment on this subject. Our most conservative men, who have hitherto argued that the rebellion would all be settled without affecting the institution of slavery, are now freely expressing their solemn conviction that slavery will be swept off forever by their owners seceding from their own estates, and leaving their slaves to take care of themselves. As the Federal army advances the Slave Power will dissolve before it as snow before a meridian sun.

"It is quite clear that Congress was right in saying that 'it is no part of the duty of our army officers to capture fugitive slaves;' and that, therefore, it was wrong of the Secretary of War at this early to issue his railroad order, forbidding colored people to go North by pair without freedom papers or passes.

"Mr. McClellan's order to the army upon its advance to Manassas had the same savor of slave-catching and slave-holding. But the order of the Secretary of War's instructions to Gen. Butler have a better justice and more sensible tone. He says 'keep them;' open an account of work, and board and keep, per contra, and the government will settle with you for their claims as *laborers may seem right.* That is the true policy. Jeff. Davis has just as good a claim upon us, for the arrest and detention of fugitive slaves, as the dominion as of the blacks. If it happens that neither of those is willing to owe allegiance to *Secesh*, it is not easy to conceive why one and not the other should be blockaded by our army or our police. We must abandon this daintiness on the slavery question. It is simply ridiculous. No sentiment of the North rejects it. The Secessionists among the masters are not entitled to the service assumed, and the Unionists will not be strengthened or inspired by it.

"Let the Fugitive Slave law accede with its author (Mason), and let us have no more fooling with 'vested rights' in man flesh. Let the Marshal attend to the spies in Washington, and quit searching Sambo's pockets for his right to his heels.

"The London *Spectator*, commenting upon the Congressional resolve alluded to, says: 'The hand moves slowly upon the dial, *but it moves.*' The common sense and the conscience of the world are waiting to bear us *strike the time.*

"Whatever we shall do hereafter, one thing seems clear—that while we neither hang the enemy's pirates nor imprison their spies, we might execute ourselves from the business of catching their negroes."

THE WESTERN ANNIVERSARY.

To the Editor of The National Anti-Slavery Standard.

Those who decided to postpone the anniversary of the Western Anti-Slavery Society, to an indefinite period, saw, doubtless, what to them were good and sufficient reasons. I know well their integrity and fidelity; but for myself, however, there is no language in which I can express my regret; a regret, too, which I find is shared by many others: here in New England, as well as in the West.

It seems to me our most dangerous adversers are those who counsel inaction at this time like this.

Mr. Phillips, in his superb speech at Abington on the First, said, "We are to be reasoned, our neighbors are to be shot! Our national honor is at stake, and whenever *sents his lips, I shall not send mine.*" To my intense joy, the sentiment was greeted with general and "prolonged applause."

The Liberator, too, of the 2d of August had several excellent communications from various directions, urging the most unlining and efficient action on our part.

Some of us are trusting to the war to overthrow slavery. I warn such that our very best efforts are yet to be required *to keep up the war!* For whoever supposes a conflict so fearful and deadly will be long suppress a conflict so fearful and deadly will be long continued, with all the sacrifices of blood and tears, of wealth, of conscience and character, all of which are but a part of war's terrible taxations, whoever supposes such a war will be long continued, or on which this is based by the considerations than those on which this is based by the government, reasons very widely from any philosophy I have ever learned.

I have weighed well the horrors and miseries of war. And mountainous as they are, one more compromise with slavery, to me, would be far worse. And should the issue at last be, War or Compromise, would not the pretenders to anti-slavery, who were seeking to drive voice of even Lucretia Mott be loud for war; while Adin Ballou would plead for the banners of our nation, as they hurried to their work of death? And now my other thought. I would keep our moral armor on and bright, were there no other possible motive for it, except to cheer and aid on our now hero-hearted men, who, before this war shall have wasted slavery away, will have wasted almost everything else; and driven both the contending hosts to making terms of adjustment as disastrous to freedom as they would be dishonorable and disgraceful to national honor and character.

And so I would postpone no meetings nor measures, where human effort, loved to the utmost, can sustain them. I consented to absorbing *The Anti-Slavery Bugle* in The Standard only because it seemed to me possible, by vigorous exertion, to make one paper do equally well the work of both. Wherever withholds any exertion at this hour, which can be made to succeed, I am not still be made, should look well to his footsteps.

The slaveholders can, and may yet free their most manly slaves, and then arm them against us. Sooner than submit to us, they will. And we will be enough to make it easy for their masters to convince them that they have nothing to hope at our hands. And on what side at last victory will rest. This is, and shall be, a part of my gospel of warning.

To-morrow, I shall go on my way westward. Next Sunday, I shall be at Lincaville, Crawford Co., Pa., and on the Sunday following at Independence, Ia., shall hold a Convention meeting somewhere in Ashtabula County, Ohio; and then, probably, devote some time to the Western Reserve, and other parts of the State.

The last announcement is made in the hope that the Old Life Guard of Freedom at the West will still be found, as in time past, at their posts. No party, no no Administration, no army as yet, has shown itself worthy to be entrusted with the hallowed interests of liberty and humanity.

PARKER PILLSBURY.

Boston, August 18, 1861.

CARD.

Believing the attempt at Christian union with slaveholders an effort to unite what God has severed, we should be guilty of a fundamental and legitimate source of strife, issuing in the most direful national calamity of civil war, the Church Anti-Slavery Society hereby reissue the offer of a prize of SIX HUNDRED DOLLARS for one adequate Tract, not exceeding twenty-four pages, on the question, "How shall Christians and Christian Churches best absolve themselves from all responsible connection with slavery?"

Said Tract to be published on or before the 1st of the following Committee of award till January 1, 1862.

Rev. L. C. Wenster, Hopkinton, Mass.,
Dea. I. Watkins, Worcester, Mass.,
Hon. Samuel Sutcher, Worcester, Mass.

SUCCESSION NEWSPAPERS—PRESENTMENT BY THE GRAND JURY.—The following presentment, signed by every member of the U. S. Grand Jury, was submitted to the U. S. Circuit Court in this city on the 14th inst. Judge Shipman said, as the term was about to close, that the presentment should be handed to Judge Nelson, for his consideration, at the opening of the Court in October.

To the Circuit Court of the United States for the Southern District of New York.

The Grand Inquest of the United States of America for the Southern District of New York, beg leave to present the following facts to the Court and ask its notice thereon:

There are certain newspapers published in this city which are in the frequent practice of encouraging rebels now in arms against the United States Government, by expressing sympathy and agreement with them.

Those papers are:

The New York Daily and Weekly Journal of Commerce,
The Daily and Weekly Day Book,
The Daily and Weekly Express,
The Freeman's Journal,
all published in the city of New York, and
The Daily and Weekly Eagle,
published in the city of Brooklyn.

The first named of these has just published a libel upon papers in the free States opposed to what it calls "the present unholy war"—a war in defence of our country and its institutions and our most sacred rights, and carried on solely for the restoration of the authority of the government.

The Grand Jury are aware that free governments allow liberty of speech and of the press, to their utmost limits; but there is, nevertheless, a limit. If a person in a station, or an army, were to preach to the soldiers submission to the enemy, he would be instantly arrested as an offender. Would he more culpable than the citizen who, in the midst of the most formidable conspiracy and rebellion, tells the conspirators and rebels that they are right, encourages them to persevere, and denounces as traitors and tyrants all loyal citizens to overcome and punish them, as engaged in an "unholy war?" If there is any limit to such language in the streets, or through the press, is not a crime, then there is a great defect in the laws for the punishment of the most flagrant outrages.

The conduct of these disloyal papers is, of course, condemned and abhorred by all loyal men, but the Grand Jury will be glad to be relieved from the duty that it is also subject to indictment and condign punishment.

All which is respectfully presented.

LIGHT AND DARKNESS IN VIRGINIA.—We are indebted to our friend George E. Baker, formerly of Albany, now in the Department of State at Washington, for a map of Virginia, showing the distribution of its Slave Population (by Counties) according to the census of 1860. The Counties (44 in number, embracing one-third of the whole area of the State) in which the slaves are less than one-fifth of the population, and in which the slave is not dark in proportion to the degree in which the soil is blighted by the great curse and crime of the age. The contrast between Eastern and Western Virginia in this respect is very striking, and that fact explains most of the Counties in the first mentioned portion of the State almost equally so. The names of the Counties, their boundaries, and the exact proportion of the slaves in each, are printed in legible characters on the outside, while in the margins is a table of all the Counties, with the number of the white and slave population, and their relative percentage of the latter to the former affixed in tabular form. This map is sold for the benefit of the sick and wounded soldiers of the United States army.

INFORMATION WANTED in regard to Alexander or Sandy Hogan, son of Betsey Hogan? Any one who will give the address of Mr. Jenkins in Baltimore, in June, 1859, and came to the North to solicit money to purchase the freedom of his wife. He is believed to have been in Birmingham, N. Y., about five weeks ago. Skin light brown. An aged mother is anxious to ascertain his whereabouts and will be grateful for information to Wm. Still, 107 North-Fifth street, Philadelphia.

Anti-slavery papers please copy.

MARIA E. ROBINSON, of Salem, Columbiana Co., Ohio is a local agent of The Standard, to receive payments from old or new subscribers.

Our Philadelphia Correspondence.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 10th, 1861.

I have been silent of late—not from want of matter to write about, but from uncertainty as to what to say. In my dilemma I came to the conclusion to let events speak for themselves; or, when their meaning was ambiguous, to let others be their interpreters. Americans are not deficient in intelligence, and your readers especially are quick to understand. It is surprising to note the unity of judgment that pervades the ranks of Abolitionists on all questions that arise in the progress of this war. With the quickness of instinct, without comparing notes, they see, on all important points, of one mind.

Before the attack on Sumter, when the government was "billing and cooing" with the South, and vainly essaying to effect a compromise, the friends of the slave, on one man, were its enemy and opponents, since that event, the attitude of the powers that be, toward the South and in effect toward slavery, having changed, the feelings of Abolitionists have undergone a corresponding revolution. From antagonists they have become friends—in their way—of the Administration, and their distrust has been modified into sympathy. Free to criticise, free to condemn, free to withhold unbelief for the measure of respect it enjoys in English opinion, and the share that is awarded to it, at this time, of English sympathy. May it ever be so. The present is a time that calls for great wisdom and forbearance. The mutual peace of the two countries is placed in jeopardy. Singular to say, the like-long enemies of England here have suddenly become her friends, and her oldest and ablest advocates amongst us are in danger of alienation.

It is unfortunate that your London correspondent, "H. M." in the beginning of his matter, should have given authority for a fact which otherwise our people would have been slow to credit—that English sympathy was withdrawn from the North, and is a measure transferred to the South, because of the Morrill tariff. Your correspondent's language on that occasion, as I took the liberty at the time of copying, was much to be regretted. She said—you will remember:

"Since I wrote last, the general feeling in this country, and, I believe, in most others, has gone round—if not in favor of the South, at least far away from the North. In the absence of accurate knowledge of the views of the Abolitionists, and of the state of parties, English people have sympathized with "the North," supposing that to be sympathizing with Republican opinions and anti-slavery sentiment and conviction. The Tariff business has been a rude awakening from this kind of dream; and it may be doubted whether the last two years will have thrown the people of England so entirely into the interest and sympathy not to be renewed; unless, indeed, by such a practical protest by your countrymen generally as will show that they regard such tyranny and injustice with as much disgust at the North as in the South. Nothing short of a national repudiation of this arrant protective policy can restore the respect and sympathy of the Old World to the free States." * * * The disappointment and resentment have been extreme. As soon as the Northern members could have their own way, they have imitated the South as closely as they could in selfish greed and cruelty and injustice." * * * "This is done in a spirit of cupidity. * * * You seem to have an allegiance in your own section, just as hostile to justice and freedom as the planter interest. * * *

If any class can exercise such tyranny, and if other classes can submit to it, there is an end to liberty and progress in the North, as there has long been in the South; and the great American experiment will have failed in all parts of the Republic."

We, Abolitionists, had been cherishing the belief, in spite of intimations in the London *Times* to the contrary, that the "general feeling" of England was with the people of the free States, but our "dream"—for such it would seem to have been—was dissipated by this sympathy of the Old World to the free States." The disappointment and resentment have been extreme. As soon as the Northern members could have their own way, they have imitated the South as closely as they could in selfish greed and cruelty and injustice." * * * "This is done in a spirit of cupidity. * * * You seem to have an allegiance in your own section, just as hostile to justice and freedom as the planter interest.

Miscellaneous Department.

MY DOVES.

BY ELIZABETH BARRETT BROWNING.

My little doves have left a nest
Upon an Indian tree,
Whose leaves fantastic take their rest
Or motion from the sea;
As gently these the hours know
From land and water to and fro.

The tragic Sea she looked upon to rule,
The tragic Asia looked down at me,
And there my little doves would sit,
With feathers ruffled dry,
Or smooth'd with pleasure that shook their right
To gem the feathers' downy delight.

And God them taught at every sound
Of anger, and of wind,
To mingle in still cadence round,
Their chiming voices kind;
Interpreting thus love, many-toned,
The meaning of the rustle and sea.

Fit subjects of heavenly love,
Theirs hath the calmest sky;
They drink their well-springs from above,
Who humbly seek before;
And musk round the cotes that springs
From language of innocent things.

My little doves yet to their eave
From that glad nest of theirs,
Just tame eno' to own day by day,
To distant, entangled spheres.
My little doves! who keep from care
The sea and sky, by warmth and blue!

And now within the city prison,
In mist and stillness pent,
With sudden upward look they listen
For sounds of past content—
For hope of water, smell of breeze,
Or notes full falling from the trees!

The sin without, the glow of passion—
The triumphs of the mart—
The gold and silver's dreary clashing
On man's insatiate heart—
The wheels of toil, the peoples' tread—
These only sounds are heard instead.

Yet still, as on my cold knows bend,
They flit it silent side the pane;
And almost seem to understand
What human moan means—
As with such unswerving sympathy,
As with such unswerving sympathy,
They turn their upward look to me—

Then chant it soft as on the nest,
Run still the sunny sky!
For love that inbreed in the rich breast
Remains mid-sky!
And 'mongst the city's shadow can be
The world of south clear and deep.

And love that keeps the music, dills
With pastoral murmurs
All echoings from out the hills,
All droppings from the waves and wind,
From mine cool in that chant I find.

So teach ye me the vital part,
Mr little doves! to move
Along the sin's way, with heart
Assured by holy love,
And vocal with such songs as own
A fountain in the world unknown.

'Twas hard to sing by Babel's stream,
More hard in Babel's streets—
Mid human souls as creatures dream
Their music not unmeet;
For sunless exile—let us begin,
Who fold immortal wings, within!

To me fair memories haunted
Of coast that cast did bless;
To me regret—and present song,
And losing thankfulness—
And very soon to break my part,
Like prayer, to purer things than they!

I will have hopes that cannot fade,
For flowers the valley yield—
I will have humble thoughts, instead
Of silent, deep fields!
My spirit and my God shall be
My seaward hill, my boundless sea!

THE ANNIVERSARY OF NEGRO EMANCIPATION.

From The London Morning Star and Daily Advertiser, Aug. 2.

LAST evening a public meeting in commemoration of the twenty-seventh anniversary of the West India emancipation was held in Spafields Chapel, under the auspices of the London Emancipation Committee. There was a large and enthusiastic audience.

The chair was occupied by Mr. WILCOCKS, who was supported by Mr. Geo. Thompson, Rev. Dr. Hewlett, Mr. Washington Wilks, Mr. W. Howitt, Mr. D. McDonnell, M. P., A. Herner, Mr. Chesson, John Anderson, and other gentlemen.

The CHAIRMAN said that he felt much gratified with the home put upon him on this occasion, for it gave him great pleasure to be identified with the cause of emancipation.

Mr. Chesson (the hon. secretary) then read letters expressing sympathy with the meeting from T. S. Duncombe, Esq., M.P., General Fergusson, and Colonel Dupuy, the Haytian Minister.

General THOMPSON in his letter said: "If the British West India Islands, on the first appointment of a Ministry inimical to slavery, had done what has been done by the Seceding States—stormed the forts occupied by the troops of the Sovereign, given battle against the commerce of the country, and raised regiments with Lord Grey's coffin for a standard—I suppose nobody doubts what would have been the course pursued as to the means of recovering the colonies, with the least amount of blood and danger. An English commander-in-chief would have been guilty of dereliction of his military duty if he had not done all he could be vain to describe, if, as soon as he found himself in command of a competent force, he did not march forward with a declaration of the slaves being free. Slavery is now existent in all places occupied by the British forces. Slaves are invited to make no movement before the licensing force arrives in their own parish.

Violence out of the field of combat, either by white or colored, will be put down by military force as soon as they could be assembled. When a district is occupied, volunteers from the colored population will be invited to join the three West India regiments and the Land Transport Corps, on terms which will be notified. Planters willing to continue their works by giving present support to their labourers will receive immunity for the past, on entering the British camp, and military protection for the future. Vagrants found committing depredations will be sent to a punishment-gang." It is submitted that a general officer who did not do something like this, would lose caste; and that those who should try to hinder him would be defective either in judgment or in principle."

The Rev. W. H. BOSHER was then called upon to move the first resolution, which was in the following effect: "That on this, the twenty-seventh anniversary of the abolition of slavery in the British colonies, this meeting cordially records the satisfaction which it feels in the retrospect of the results which have followed from the Emancipation Act of 1833, which have demonstrated that that Act was not one more of national justice than of sound policy; it would also rejoice in the fact that the liberated population have, by their conduct, triumphantly vindicated their capacity for freedom as well as their right to it, and have demonstrated the safety and advantage, as well as the duty and necessity, of immediate and unconditional emancipation." The reverend gentleman, in the course of his remarks, read a long and interesting communication from Mr. Boycott, a missionary who returned from St. Domingo, upon the condition and prospects of the coloured race upon Turk's Island and in St. Domingo.

The Rev. Dr. HEWLETT seconded the resolution. He said it had cost the country twenty millions sterling to liberate the slaves in the West Indies, but never were twenty millions better laid out than in this cause. This was the universal opinion of England when the act was passed, but his friend Mr. George Thompson would very well recollect the opposition at that time to emancipation. It proceeded, however, from those who had vested interests in the continuance of slavery, and seldom from those who could judge with honesty and impartiality. Notwithstanding the sterling qualities which the slaves have since not treated with the care which any Essex farmer would bestow upon his cattle, and thus the property in slaves was of a most precarious and unprofitable kind. In conclusion, the speaker expressed a hope that success would attend the efforts of those who were endeavouring to put down slavery in Africa, all round the coast of Africa—a measure which he believed would prove to be an effectual barrier to the slave trade.

Mr. GEORGE THOMPSON proposed the second resolution, as follows: "That it is the conviction of this meeting that the civil war raging in America has been caused by the existence and toleration of the institution of slavery, in violation of the primary principles of the Declaration of Independence, upon which the Union was professedly founded; and would express its earnest hope that the people of the free States will embrace the opportunity which the war furnishes to declare, through their elected organ, the abolition of slavery throughout all the States and Territories over which the authority of the Union extends, and thereby perform an act of justice and humanity to four millions of their population, ensure the more speedy termination of the present unnatural and sanguinary conflict, command the hearty sympathy and admiration of England, and lay a foundation for the firm and permanent peace, prosperity, and unsullied reputation of their great republic." It would be, he said, no exaggeration to say that no public speaker could rise to discuss a question of greater gravity or of deeper import than that which was submitted to them on this occasion. Nothing which was happening in any part of the world could approach, in political and moral importance, that which was now happening in the United States of America. There was no spot on the globe that would not be affected for good or for evil by the results which would spring from the contest now waging on the other side of the Atlantic. The revolution referred to slavery as the cause of that unnatural and inconvenient war—a system which was held in detestation by every community throughout the world; and there was not a single intelligent being, let alone the history of American politics, who would not maintain that it was the sole guarantee of the quarrel between the North and the South (cheers). But for this harmony would still prevail. The Union had indeed been preserved for a long series of years in spite of it; but the spirit of the old compromises, the continual compromises on the part of the Northern States in order to conciliate the South, and sacrifice the liberty and their rights, had ended with their Southern brethren. A few years ago, slavery could not have been seated on a throne supreme and invincible, while it had swayed the political feelings and guided the political action of the country for ages. If the South were no longer supreme, and slavery was shaken to its very centre, it was owing to her own political blindness, which would not see that slavery would be safe so long as they remained in the Union, because being within it they secured the political force of the Northern States, as well as the whole moral force of the country, in perpetuation of their institution of slavery (hear, hear). Under the influence of this madness they determined to separate themselves from the North, and make themselves into a distinct and independent nation. And as our own West Indian emancipation was brought about far less by the advocacy of men whose names were rendered immortal by their connection with that great cause, such as Clarkson and Wilberforce—than by the outrages and cruelty of the planters and colonists themselves, so in America the blow to slavery came not from the Abolitionists, but by their very act of the slave States themselves (cheers). Mr. Lincoln did not enter the office of President who had ever been elected, except that he had given a pledge and oath that he would do nothing to extend the area of slavery, but that he would use all his influence to limit and confine it. This was the assurance of Mr. Lincoln's anti-slavery. He was believed to be an honest politician, and also to hold that slavery was a sin against the laws of God and man. This view had recommended him to the Abolitionists, and this was the bond and fruit of his offending against the Southern States. Mr. Thompson then read Mr. Lincoln's inaugural address at length, and in an eloquent manner, to explain his views with regard to the state of affairs in America; and, in conclusion, he said the question of its constitutional character, to remedy the evil and bitter root which had brought forth the harvest of disaster. They could not blame the founders of the Republic. We must come to more modern times for the language of sympathy towards their brethren be used (hear, hear), and intermingled so that no one could tell on seeing an American what State he came, what side in the struggle he would take (hear, hear). We could only regard the Americans as another branch of the same great family with ourselves, so closely were we identified in language, in history, in religion, and almost in laws. In pointing out, therefore, the cause of the existence of this war, let